

Remarks

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-41 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-37 of United States Patent No. 6,537,831, issued in the name of Kline, (hereinafter "Kline").

Claims 1-41 were originally presented for Examination. Claims 1-41 are currently pending, of which, claims 1, 18 and 36 are in independent form. Favorable reconsideration of the present amendment as currently constituted is respectfully requested.

Obviousness-type Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-41 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-37 of Kline. Applicant respectfully submits herewith a terminal disclaimer to obviate the double patenting rejection over the prior patent, i.e., Kline, and respectfully requests that the obviousness-type double patenting rejection be withdrawn and claims 1-41 be allowed.

Fee Statement

Applicant has enclosed form PTO-2038 authorizing payment in the amount of \$55.00 in connection with the statutory disclaimer filed herewith. Applicant believes no additional fees are due for

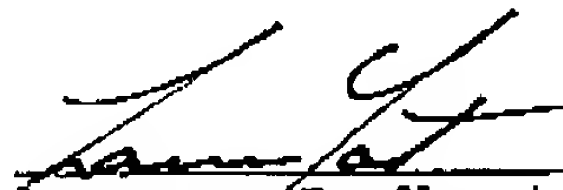
the filing of this Response. If any additional fees are due, or any overpayments have been made, however, please charge, or credit, our Deposit Account No. 03-1130.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding objections and rejections and allow claims 1-41 presented for reconsideration herein. Accordingly, a favorable action in the form of an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned for any reason that would advance the instant application to issue.

Dated this 23rd day of December, 2003.

Respectfully submitted:



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